DWeb Weekend 2025 - Saturday 8/16/2025

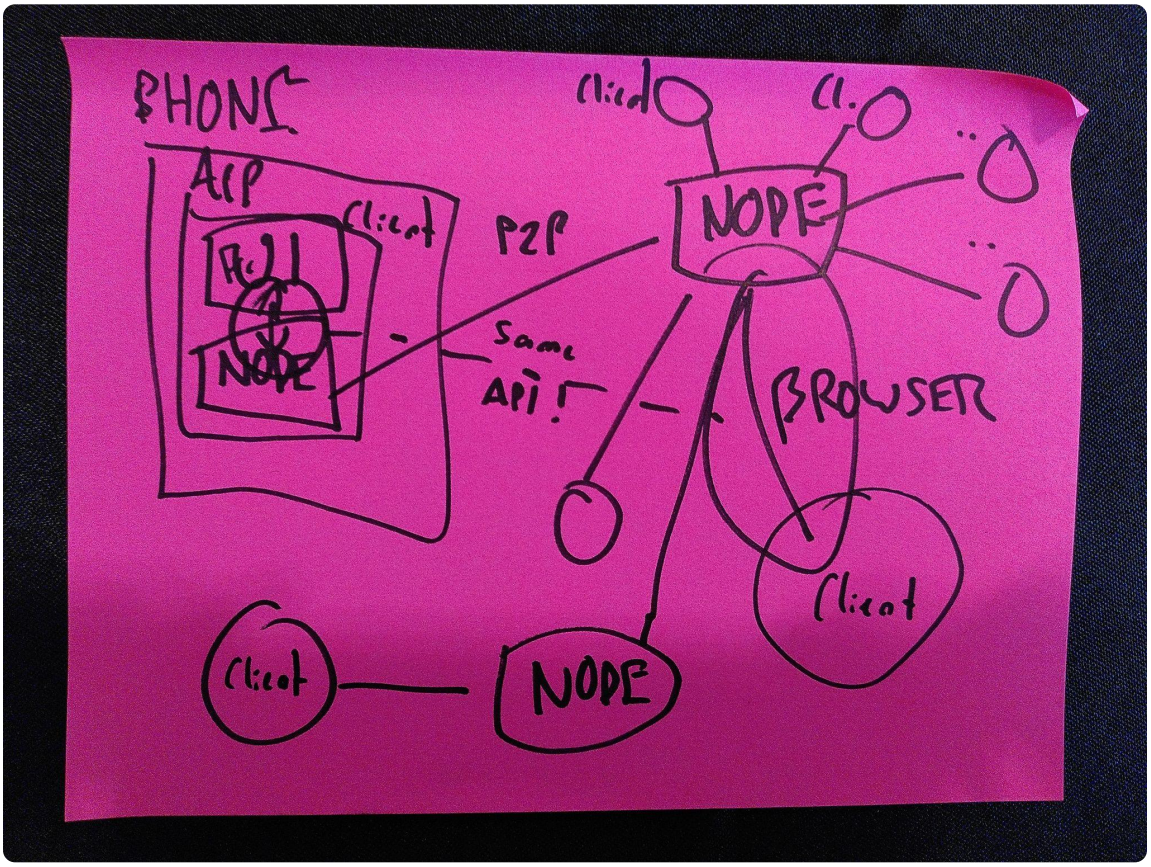
Roundtable Discussion 1.5

Title: Ensuring (centralized) backwards compatibility in p2p tech
Time: 11:15 - 12:00
Attendees: Dmitri, Zacchae, adz, Matt, later Matthew
Note taker: adz

Please add your /initials/ at the front of a comment

General Notes

- Fascinated by GNU Nets GNS
  - https://www.gnunet.org/en/gns.html (https://www.gnunet.org/en/gns.html)
  - Kinda a precursor to Tor
  - Tor-like addressing overlay
  - GNS, hijack your DNS requests and route them through GNS (via an extra service you install)
  - Interesting property: You can "upgrade" into GNS but you can still use DNS
  - It's been introduced a couple of years ago
  - How many nodes are running?
    - Currently only one hosted
    - This is the "bootstrap problem"
- WASM is another example
  - It "frees" us from living in the web browser
  - WASM can can be an compilation target (if you target browsers)
  - Spritely is building on top of wasm

    - Choose other targets for other platforms
- GUN was a really good proof of concept
    - Web Browsers could talk to each other
    - External nodes "bootstrapping" your browser into the network
- Support "lightweight clients" in the browser
    - Node form the actual p2p network
    - Different configurations:
        - Simple web-client talking to an external node
    - 

- EtherSync
    - "Piggy back" on Hedgedoc API so they can push their text changes straight into the centralised, hosted web app
    - https://github.com/ethersync/ethersync (https://github.com/ethersync/ethersync)
- Care about autonomy, running your own nodes which can go offline, but facing outside with an static IP

    - Want to have an IP address facing outside and control all the infrastructure behind it
    - I should control the nodes and everything external should do as little as possible
    - Dynamic DNS doesn't work behind
    - Relay with reverse proxy
        - You can have multiple of them

- There was this OTF project which gave centralised, traditional apps an DTN layer, allowing to delay the packets to the server across multiple nodes
- DeltaChat
    - Supports E2EE (Autocrypt) emailing
    - WebXDC apps on top (iroh gossip and mail as persistance layer)
    - .. BUT also regular email, so you can "chat" with people using GMail still
- Holochain HTTP gateway (https://github.com/holochain/hc-http-gw)

Summary to be reported to the other DWeb Weekend participants

a) We came up with a lot of good examples we like! Check the notes.

adz